



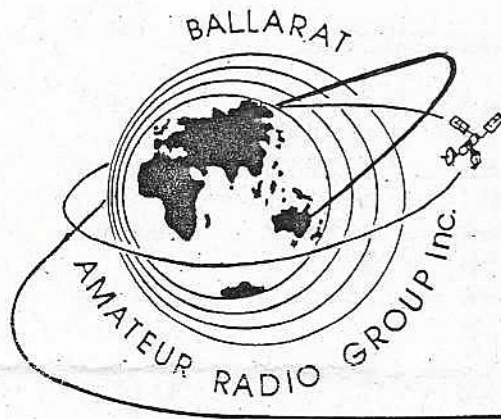
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WIRELESS INSTITUTE OF AUSTRALIA

92/07 1

B·A·R·G NEWS

© Monthly Newsletter of the
Ballarat Amateur Radio Group Inc.



JULY '92



CLUB STATION

VK3BML

REGISTERED BY AUSTRALIA POST, PUBLICATION No. VBH3397

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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 1991/92

			HOME	WORK
PRESIDENT	Tom George	VK3DMK	355662	327234
IMM. PAST PRESIDENT	Ian McDonald	VK3AXH		311317
VICE PRESIDENT	Ian Robinson	VK3FD	358031	315911
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EDUCATION OFFICER	Ian McDonald	VK3AXH		311317
NET CO-ORDINATOR	John Hazledine	VK3CFH	391971	391035
TECHNICAL OFFICER	Dick Antoziewicz	VK3AEX	323273	311818
MEMBERS' REPS.	Mary Curnow	VK3FMC	301927	
	Reg. Carter	VK3CAZ	417585	

OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

QSL MANAGER	Jeff Pigdon	VK3PAP	327041	311211
AWARDS MANAGER	Maurie Batt	VK3XEX	422245	
PROPERTY OFFICER	Dick Antoziewicz	VK3AEX	323273	311818
HAMFEST CONVENER	Kevin Hughes	VK3WN	355011	
WICEN COMMITTEE	Gordon Cornell	VK3KGC	392427	391135
	Geoff Smith	VK3ADB	332112	
	Tom George	VK3DMK	355662	327234
TECHNICAL COMMITTEE	Ian McDonald	VK3AXH		311317
	Dick Forrester	VK3VU	357663	391001
	Merv Hooley	VK3KAW		311317
	David McConnell	VK3YNB		
NEWSLETTER EDITOR	Norm D'Angri	VK3LBA	341613	29 Lawrence St. Alfredton - 3350

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REPEATERS: VK3RBA - 146.750 MHz. Voice. Mt. Buninyong. (Ch. 3)
 VK3RBS - 146.900 MHz. Voice. Smeaton Hill. (Ch. 6)
 VK3RPC - 147.600 MHz. Packet Mt. Warrenheip
 VK3RBU - 438.475 MHz. Voice. Mt. Hollowback

CLUB NET: Thursday nights at 8 pm. (8.30 pm. during daylight saving)
 Freq. - 3.610 MHz. +/- QRM.

FOX HUNTS: Monday nights at 7.30 pm.
 Freq. - 146.500 MHz. Meet at Education Centre - Hopetoun St.

2 METRE SCRAMBLE: Sunday nights at 7.50 pm.
 Freq. - 146.425 MHz. to 146.600 MHz. Call back on VK3RBA.

MEETINGS: Last Friday of every month at 7.30 pm. at
 Ballarat Community Education Centre
 Hopetoun St. Ballarat.

CORRESPONDENCE: Please address all correspondence to:

The Secretary
 B. A. R. G. Inc.
 P. O. Box 1261
 MAIL CENTRE BALLARAT 3354

BALLARAT



73 FROM NORM.
 VK3LBA

PRESIDENTS REPORT

The A.G.M is also our pie/pastie/sausage roll night so its an added incentive to come along. All positions become vacant at the A.G.M. and members are asked to think seriously about any positions they think they may be able to fill to help participate in club activities.

Members are reminded that another exam will be held in about 4 weeks time and anyone wishing to upgrade, or knows of others wishing to do so, should make a decision A. S. A. P.

August 15th. and 16th. is the RD Contest and participants at the club station in the Novice Contest have shown interest in the RD at the Linton location, so VK3BML will be operating on that weekend and all are welcome to come along and operate, observe, help keep score, erect aerials or just help keep the fires burning during the cool nights. (See Novice Contest article in this issue).

73 See you at the next meeting ... TOM VK3DMK

EXAMINATION RESULTS

AT = AOCP Theory
AR = AOCP Morse Receiving
AS = AOCP Morse Sending
RE = Regulations

NT = Novice Theory
NR = Novice Morse Receiving
NS = Novice Morse Sending
DNA = Did Not Attend exam

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TOTALS	AT	RE	AR	AS	NT	NR	NS
=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
CANDIDATES FOR EACH EXAM	3	8			7	1	1
PASSED	1	3			3	1	1
FAILED	1	4			4		
APPLIED BUT DID NOT ATTEND	1	1					
PASS RATE	33%	37%			42%	100%	100%
TOTAL NUMBER OF CANDIDATES			10				
TOTAL NUMBER OF INDIVIDUAL EXAMS			20				
AVERAGE INDIVIDUAL EXAMS PER CANDIDATE			2.00				
AVERAGE PASS RATE			45.00%				

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MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING HELD 26th JUNE 1992.



MEETING OPENED at 7.50pm by President Tom VK3 DMK who welcomed 35 members and visitors in attendance. A special welcome to Les Snibson from Medicine Hat in VE land.

APOLOGIES . VK3 VBA, AXH, XEX, VTR, SE, TDG, YMW, NIZ.

CORRESPONDENCE No correspondence in or out.

TREASURERS REPORT General a/c \$382.96. Accounts \$430.41 passed for payment. KGL/EF

CLUB NET is very active at present with interesting news snippets

EDUCATION Stan SE is giving slow morse sessions on 3.505 7.30pm on Monday Wednesday and Friday. Please let Stan know if you are taking advantage of this service.

TECHNICAL Cabinet installed and power on for repeater on Mt Hollowback. RBA cavities need cleaning when weather improves. Digipeater. Main parts are now to hand. RPC is running on 144.750 from Merv KAW's shack.

NEWSLETTER Usual monthly appeal for articles and information.

WICEN WICEN AGM will be held on 25th July. Gordon and Tom attending.

GENERAL BUSINESS. Tom DMK gave a report on the Novice Contest held at Linton by a hardy group of enthusiasts. Results excellent.

We will be trying to contact the Medicine Hat Club in VE starting August 1st. Further details in Newsletter later.

Melbourne Packet Group meeting date changed to 12th & 13th of September. Venue-Staff canteen at Education Centre.

#####

73 Jim CFB

AMATEUR TELEVISION

There are limited Amateur Television experiments being conducted here in Ballarat and in the Yendon district.

Both black and white and colour transmissions have been received on a simplex frequency of 426.250 MHz. using suitable converters inter-connected with T.V. receivers tuned to channel 5 or 5A. An antenna with some gain is required pointed in the direction of the transmitter.

As stations at present are only using low power the transmitting station must also direct its antenna towards the receiver.

T.V. equipment is still being built to give better results.

Active stations at present are: VK3TOP (Ben) VK3YNB (David) VK3AXH (Ian) VK3DCS (Charlie) and VK3SE (Stan)

More reports later.

VK3SE (Stan)

For Ballarat A.T.V. Group.

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Contact: VK3FD (Ian)

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WANTED KNOWN

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A.G.M.

PIE AND SAUSAGE ROLL NIGHT

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF B. A. R. G. WILL BE HELD IN THE
STAFF ROOM AT THE EDUCATION CENTRE - HOPETOUN ST. ON 31ST. JULY
FOLLOW THE SIGN TO THE STAFF ROOM

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R. D. CONTEST - 15TH. & 16TH. AUGUST

VK3BML WILL BE OPERATIONAL AT LINTON

ALL WELCOME TO VISIT AND OPERATE

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WANTED

70 CM SSB or ALL MODE Tranceiver
and / or

Linear Amp. or Antennas

Contact Ernie (VK3DET) Phone: 317 604

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WANTED

Circuit Diagram or Handbook (or copies)
for

National Communications Receiver - Model NC173 (Older Model)

Will pay all expenses.

Contact Dick (VK3LDC) Phone: 053-316 085 (Work)
053-301 927 (Home)

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S L O W MORSE

You may or may not be aware that Stan (VK3SE) has been extremely helpful to some candidates for the NAOCP examinations by sending slow morse on 3.505MHz. (+/- QRM) several nights each week starting at 7.30 PM. This is a service gratefully appreciated by those who have participated.

Stan has indicated that he is prepared to continue with these sessions if there is sufficient expressions of interest.

If YOU are interested please contact Stan to discuss arrangements and to confirm method of 'call back'.

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JUST A THOUGHT:

If we were meant to fly we wouldn't keep losing our luggage.

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MEET THE CHALLENGE

The MEDICINE HAT AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, Alberta, Canada, extends a challenge to the Ballarat Amateur Radio Group, to make first contact with one of its members.

The Medicine Hat club has 54 members from a city population of 46,000. They have three repeater stations, two voice and one Packet. When the linking is brought on line they will be linked across the entire country.

The contest will begin on 1st. August (voice only).

Further information regarding times and frequencies will be provided in the next newsletter.

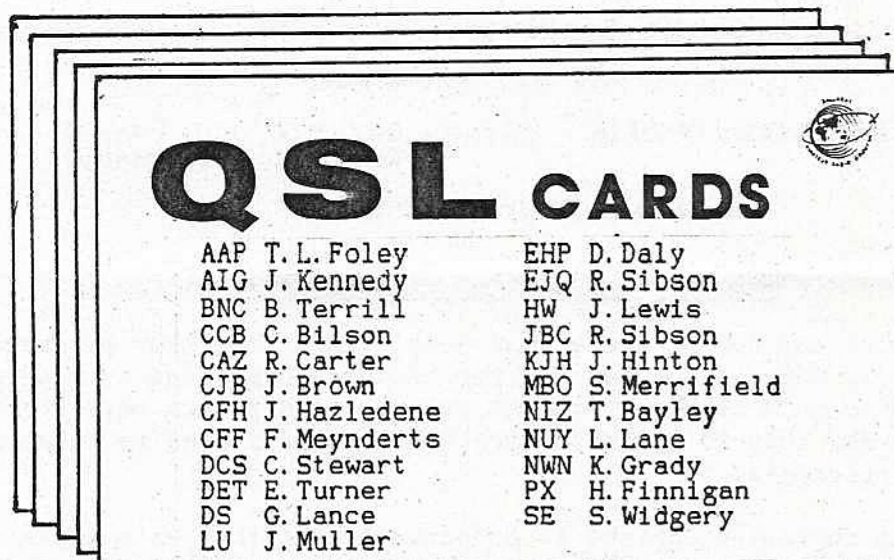
Les Snibson VE6LGS/VK3TOT

Contact: Medicine Hat Amateur Radio Club
C/- Jim McCorkie VE6JEM
814 B 4th. Street S.E.
Medicine Hat Alberta CANADA T1A0L9

Contact: Les Snibson VK3TOT
C/- Eureka Post Office Phone: (053) 347815
Ballarat
Victoria 3350



QSL Cards are on hand for the following callsigns. They include cards just received, but some cards have been on hand for 2 years or more. Please collect them.



I wish there was a knob on the T.V. to turn up the intelligence.

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ONCE UPON A HILL - (KEN VK3PDA)

I arrived at Flagstaff Hill (or Mount Bute as some maps say) at about 1 PM. after a sunny ride out through Linton, to find Cliff (CCB) with a computer tuned end fed wire for H.F. and a J pole for 2 metres on his bull bar.

Tom (DMK) and Ian (EF) arrived soon after with a wagon that looked as full as an egg. The dipoles were set up first. Doug (KAY) placed a $\frac{1}{2}\lambda$ Vertical for 10 metres on top of the tower. Charlie (DCS) turned up with a wizz bang Video Camera to film the antics, and a 5 band H.F. Vertical that we used on 15 metres. Trevor (NTA) and his ute supplied fire wood for a fire that was to burn all night.

Eric (VTR), Danny (MGR), Ian (FD), and Norm (Editor) turned up as well, and everything was set up by the time the contest started, including a tent with a splint on one pole that consisted of 5 pegs and half a roll of insulation tape. Thanks for the instructions Dick (AEX)

I received a call from Debbie (PDB) to say that her car wouldn't start, so on the bike again and back to Ballarat.

As we were returning to 'the hill' we both worked BML on 80 metres from the mobile.

When we arrived back the fire was hot and the finals were warm, and operators changed many times up until 2 AM. when the frost began to thicken. I think that all would like to thank Jim (CFB) for the small gas heater that we used in the tent. It made conditions in there a lot more bearable considering the temperature outside.

I awoke at about 4.15 AM. and built up the fire to thaw out my bones. We don't quite fit in our little wagon and the back door won't shut with straight legs.

The generator was fired up at about 4.30 AM. to catch the ZL's before they went to work on a SUNDAY !!!!! It was about 20 minutes before I made my first contact. That could have been sleeping time, anyway the tent was starting to thaw out, thanks to Jim, and by 7.00 AM. the sun felt good. By this time most of the other operators had risen from the frost, it was about 1/4" thick on the bonnet of Tom's car (EF's bedroom for the night).

Debbie and I left for Ballarat at about 10 AM. and on the way to town we both worked BML on 15 metres. We returned at about 12 noon and worked the club station again on 10 metres while we were mobile near Ross Creek.

After lunch Doug (KAY) returned with a fresh operator, Richard (VEN) and the contacts rolled in. Ernie (DET) took advantage of the good weather to clock up a few more k's on his bike.

I lifted a slab of concrete that during the weekend most of us had kicked, sat on, leant on and even laid on, because it was beside the fire, to find 2 small snakes, one of which Cliff picked up to show the more nervous. We put them back, but some still gave the slab the odd wary glance.

The contest almost ended at 5.55 PM due to the generator starting to splutter from lack of fuel, and there was a mad rush to splash a bit more in the tank before it cut out.

The contest concluded with a rush of numbers towards the end but all went well and the Camp and the Antennas were packed up in the dark with lots of points and heaps of contacts in the log.

Thanks to all who took the time to call VK3BML during the contest. This was my second contest and proved to be very good fun.

PS..THANKS TO DOUG VK3KAY FOR THE USE OF FT-707... de VK3PDA (Ken)

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Dictionary: HEALTH - The slowest possible rate at which one can die.

THANKS to VK3DS (George) and VK3YNB (David) who have supplied articles for use in future newsletters. (Norm)

WIA Exam Service

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Amateur Radio examination service
of the
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National Society of Radio Amateurs
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PO Box 300, South Caulfield, VIC. 3162
(Suite 3, 105 Hawthorn Rd., North Caulfield 3161)
Phone (03) 528 5962 Fax (03) 523 8191

15 July, 1992

NEWSLETTER

WIA Exam Service has now been in operation for over nine months, and is proving to be very successful. Thank you for the part you are playing. The following statistics may be of interest to you. As at 30th June 1992:-

Accredited Examiners registered:	355
Examination material has been forwarded for:	262 Exam Events
Exam Events completed:	234
Total number of candidates:	1152
Total number of individual exams:-	1945
Average candidates per Exam Event:	4.9
Average individual exams per candidate:	1.7
Average pass rate:	50.2%

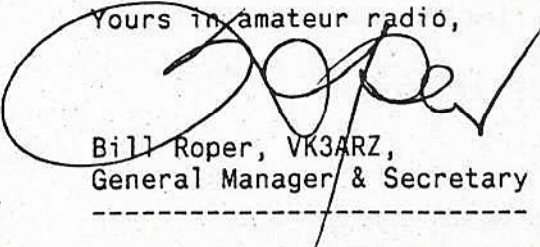
When WIA Exam Service was set up, one of the more difficult tasks was establishing equitable costs. Experience has shown that cost estimates on all aspects of providing the exam service were accurate, except in regard to the number of individual examination subjects needed for each Exam Event. Based on extensive surveying of examinations conducted under the previous system, it was expected that the average number of individual examination subjects per Exam Event would be at least 20 (ie. 10 candidates sitting for 2 subjects each; or 5 candidates sitting for 4 subjects each).

However, it seems that WIA Exam Service may have been too successful in simplifying the running of exams. Exams are now taking place much more frequently than previously, and for correspondingly smaller numbers of candidates. This is great. But, as you can see from the above statistics, the average number of individual examination subjects per Exam Event so far is only 8.3, well under half the number originally expected, and this seriously changes the costing of exams.

At first it was thought that the trend for small Exam Events was only due to a settling-in period and, once the novelty of easy provision of exams wore off, the trend may change. But this is not proving to be the case. Small exams continue to dominate.

Regrettably, this means that the cost of exams is going to have to be increased, otherwise the WIA will be making a loss on exams. Naturally, this increase will be kept to an absolute minimum, and will be introduced no sooner than is absolutely necessary.

Yours in amateur radio,


Bill Roper, VK3ARZ,
General Manager & Secretary

NEW ARRIVAL

NORM AND VAL ARE PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE
THE ARRIVAL OF - LIMA BRAVO ALPHA
SPECIAL THANKS TO IAN(XH) REG(CAZ)
TOM(DMK) IAN(FD) FELLOW CANDIDATES
AND THE CARING STAFF AT B.R.A.C.E.

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Ballarat Amateur Radio Group Inc

MEMBERSHIP FEES 1992/93

Membership fees become due at the AGM. Please assist the club by paying promptly to the Treasurer Harry Hekkema, VK3KGL at club meetings or by mail to: BOX 1261, BALLARAT M/C, 3354.

The scale of fees is as follows:

FULL MEMBERSHIP.....	\$10.00
FAMILY.....	\$15.00
STUDENT/PENSIONER.....	\$ 5.00
ASSOCIATE.....	\$ 7.50
LIFE MEMBER.....	NIL

Note: Associated membership is a Newsletter subscription only.

To enable accurate records to be kept, please complete the following information and return it with your subscription.

NAME _____ CALL SIGN _____

ADDRESS _____

Membership desired FULL/FAMILY/STUDENT/PENSIONER/ASSOCIATED/LIFE

Amount remitted \$ _____ Date _____

NOMINATION FORM

We wish to nominate _____ for the
position of _____ of B.A.R.G.
for the 1992/93 year.

NOMINATOR (Signature) _____ Callsign _____

SECONDER (Signature) _____ Callsign _____

Signature of person nominated above _____

DATE ____ / ____ /1992.

* Please forward to the Secretary Jim, VK3CFB.

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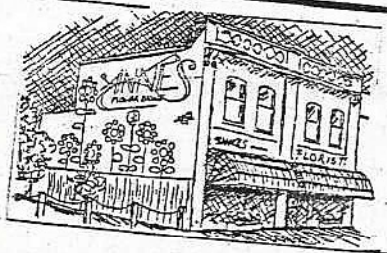
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